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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of

J. C. Zhao et al

: Group Art Unit: 1775

Application No. 96/681,821

: Examiner: J. McNeil

Filed: June 11, 2001

Response to Paper No. 9

For

Diffusion Barrier Coatings, and Related Articles and Processes

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2003, please enter the following amendment to the application, and consider the accompanying remarks.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name of person signing certification:

Francis T. Coppa

Signature:

November 33, 2003

Date: